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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/720,970	11/24/2003	Craig L. Reding	03-1018	5217
32127	7590	06/26/2006	EXAMINER	
VERIZON PATENT MANAGEMENT GROUP 600 HIDDEN RIDGE DRIVE N. COURTHOUSE ROAD SUITE 500 ARLINGTON, VA 75038-2909			PHAN, HUY Q	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2617	

DATE MAILED: 06/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/720,970

Applicant(s)

REDING ET AL.

Examiner

Huy Q. Phan

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 May 2006.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-16 and 18-22 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-16 and 18-22 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Art Unit location of your application in the USPTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Art Unit 2617.

Response to Amendment

2. This Office Action is in response to Amendment filed on date: 05/03/2006.
Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-16 and 18-22 are still pending.
Claims 3, 7 and 17 have been cancelled.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 08/01/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicants' arguments, with regard to the amended claim 1, that Holloway does not disclose the amended limitations "receiving user defined preferences regarding handling of calls directed to the plurality of communications devices; storing the user defined preferences; and forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to a second one of the communications devices in response to receipt of the indication and based on the user defined preferences" (see REMARKS pages 16-17). However, the examiner notes that the amended limitations of "receiving user defined preferences regarding handling of calls directed to the plurality of communications devices; storing the user defined preferences; and forwarding calls

intended for at least two of the communications devices to a second one of the communications devices in response to receipt of the indication and based on the user defined preferences" are not supported by applicants' specification; hence, it is new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1, 11, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claims 1 and 11, applicants have added the limitations of "receiving user defined preferences regarding handling of calls directed to the plurality of communications devices; storing the user defined preferences; and forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to a second one of the communications devices in response to receipt of the indication and based on the user defined preferences". However, the examiner notes that the added limitations of "receiving user defined preferences regarding handling of calls directed to the plurality of communications devices; storing the user defined preferences; and forwarding calls

intended for at least two of the communications devices to a second one of the communications devices in response to receipt of the indication and based on the user defined preferences" are not supported by applicants' specification; hence, it is new matter.

Regarding claims 21 and 22, applicants have added the limitations of "forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to the third communications device when the indication indicates that the first communications device is not within range of the second communications device". However, the examiner notes that the added limitations of "forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to the first communications device when the indication indicates that the first communications device is not within range of the second communications device" are not supported by applicants' specification; hence, it is new matter.

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 11, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 11 recite the limitations of "forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to a second one of the communications devices in

response to receipt of the indication and based on the user defined preferences". It is unclear whether these limitations are referring to the same calls being forwarded from two different communications devices (it is impossible for the same call being forwarded from at least two different communications devices to the particular communications device at the same "exactly" time); therefor, making the claim indefinite.

Claims 21 and 22 recite the limitations of "forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to a third communications devices when the indication indicates that the first communications device is within range of the second communications device". It is unclear whether these limitations are referring to the same calls being forwarded from two different communications devices (it is impossible for the same call being forwarded from at least two different communications devices to the particular communications device at the same "exactly" time); therefor, making the claim indefinite.

For examining purposes, the added limitations are being considered.

Claim Objections

5. Claim 19 is objected to because of depending on the cancelled claim 17.

Appropriate correction is required.

For examining purpose, claim 19 is being depended on claim 11.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Holloway (US-2003/0092451).

Regarding claim 1, Holloway discloses a method for managing calls directed to a plurality of communications devices associated with a user ([0022]; see figs. 1-2 and descriptions) comprising:

receiving user-defined preferences regarding handling of calls directed to the plurality of communications devices (described as “a single transmitter can be programmed to recognize different mobile phones associated with it and to transfer each mobile phone to a different extension. This could be utilized in an office where multiple employees utilize mobile phones for business or in homes where both spouses carry mobile phones” see [0022] and [0017]);

storing the user defined preferences ([0017] and [0022]);

receiving an indication [0017] that a first one of the communications devices (fig. 2, 230) has moved within wireless communication range of a terminal (fig. 2, 220); and

forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to a second one of the communications devices (fig. 2, 240) ("phone 230 sends an overhead message to cellular system 210 requesting forwarding of calls to preferred phone 240" see [0017]) in response to receipt of the indication and based on the user defined preferences [0017].

Regarding claim 2, Holloway discloses the method as recited in claim 1, wherein receiving an indication comprises receiving an indication using a protocol comprising of Bluetooth [0019], IEEE 802.11(b), and IEEE 802.11(g) (inherently as "transmitter 220 is a low power RF transmitter" see [0017]).

Regarding claim 4, Holloway discloses the method as recited in claim 1, further comprising receiving a second indication that the first communications device has moved outside of wireless communication range of the terminal [0017]; and

terminating the forwarding of calls to the second communications device in response to receipt of the second indication [0017];

forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to the first communication in response to the receipt of the second indication ([0017] and [0015]).

Regarding claim 5, Holloway discloses the method as recited in claim 1, further comprising: receiving an indication that the first communications device has deactivated

wireless communication with the second device ("remove the forwarding request" see [0017]).

Regarding claim 6, Holloway discloses the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the user defined preferences include a preference regarding forwarding calls to the first communications device when the first communications device is not within wireless communication range of the terminal ([0014]-[0017] and [0022]).

Regarding claim 8, Holloway discloses the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the user defined preferences include a preference regarding forwarding a notification [0006] regarding a call based on the received indication ([0016]-[0017]).

Regarding claim 9, Holloway discloses the method as recited in claim 8, further comprising receiving, in response to the notification, an instruction regarding handling of the call ([0006] and [0016]-[0017]).

Regarding claim 10, Holloway discloses the method as recited in claim 9, wherein the instruction regarding handling of the call includes an instruction regarding forwarding the call to a user specified device ([0006] and [0016]-[0017]).

Regarding claim 11, Holloway discloses a system for managing a plurality of

communications devices associated with a user (see figs. 1-2 and descriptions),
comprising:

at least one processors (inherently described as “programmed”; see [0017] and [0022]) configured to:

receive user defined preferences regarding handling of calls directed to each of the communications devices ([0015]-[0017] and [0022]),

store the user defined preferences ([0017] and [0022]),

receive an indication regarding wireless communications between a first communications device (fig. 2, 230) and a second communications device (fig. 2, 220),
and

forward calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to a third communications device (fig. 2, 240) in response to receipt of the indication ([0022] and [0017]).

Regarding claim 12, Holloway discloses the system as recited in claim 11, wherein the at least one processor is configured to receive an indication regarding wireless communications using a protocol comprising at least one of Bluetooth [0019], IEEE 802.11(b), and IEEE 802.11(g) (inherently as “transmitter 220 is a low power RF transmitter” see [0017] and [0022]).

Regarding claim 13, Holloway discloses the system as recited in claim 11, wherein the indication indicates that the first communications device has moved within

wireless communication range of the second communications device [0017].

Regarding claim 14, Holloway discloses the system as recited in claim 11, wherein the at least one processor is further configured to:

receive a second indication that the first communications device has moved outside of wireless communication range of the second communications device [0017]; and

terminate the forwarding of calls intended for the at least two of the communication device to the third communications device in response to receipt of the second indication ([0017] and [0022]);

forward calls intended for at least two of the communications devices to the first communication in response to the receipt of the second indication ([0017], [0015] and [0022]).

Regarding claim 15, Holloway discloses the system as recited in claim 11, wherein the at least one processors is further configured to receive a second indication that the first communications device has deactivated wireless communication with the second communications device ([0017] and [0015]).

Regarding claim 16, Holloway discloses the system as recited in claim 11, wherein the user defined preferences include a preference regarding forwarding calls to the first device based on whether the first set of processors receive an indication

regarding wireless communications between the first device and the second device [0017].

Regarding claim 18, Holloway discloses the system as recited in claim 11, wherein the user defined preferences include a preference regarding forwarding a notification [0006] regarding a call based on whether at least one processor receives an indication regarding wireless communications between the first device and the second device ([0006], [0015]-[0017] and [0022]).

Regarding claim 19, Holloway discloses the system as recited in claim 11, wherein the at least one processor is further configured to receive, in response to the notification, an instruction regarding handling of the call ([0017] and [0022]).

Regarding claim 20, Holloway discloses the system as recited in claim 18, wherein the instruction regarding handling of the call includes an instruction regarding forwarding the call to a user specified device ([0017] and [0022]).

Regarding claim 21, Holloway discloses a system for managing calls directed to a plurality of communications devices associated with a user of a communications network (see figs. 1-2 and descriptions), comprising:

means for receiving user-defined preferences regarding handling of calls directed to the plurality of communications devices ([0017] and [0022]);

means for receiving an indication [0017] regarding wireless communications between a first communications device (fig. 2, 230) and a second communications device (fig. 2, 220); and

means for forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices ([0017] and [0022]) to the third communications device (fig. 2, 240) when the indication indicates that the first communications device is not within range of the second communications device [0017]; and

means for forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices ([0015]-[0017] and [0022]) to the first communications device when the indication indicates that the first communications device is not within range of the second communications device ([0015]-[0017] and [0022]).

Regarding claim 22, Holloway discloses a computer-readable medium containing instructions (inherently described as “programmed”; see [0017]) for performing a method for managing calls directed to one or more communications devices associated with a user of a communications network (see figs. 1-2 and descriptions), comprising:

receiving user-defined preferences regarding handling of calls directed to at least one of the communications devices ([0017] and [0022]);

storing the user defined preferences ([0017] and [0022]);

receiving an indication [0017] regarding wireless communications between a first communications device (fig. 2, 230) and a second communications device (fig. 2, 220); and

forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices ([0017] and [0022]) to the third communications device (fig. 2, 240) when the indication indicates that the first communications device is not within range of the second communications device [0017]; and

forwarding calls intended for at least two of the communications devices ([0015]-[0017] and [0022]) to the first communications device when the indication indicates that the first communications device is not within range of the second communications device ([0015]-[0017] and [0022]).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a) De Loye discloses “upon reception of a call from the radio communication network at the wireless mobile terminal, the call having a call type belonging to the predefined list, selecting an office device able to handle the call type; and forwarding the call to this office device” (see specification).

b) Kotzin discloses the method for proximal wireless units (see specification).

c) Olkkonen discloses the method for AD HOC network (see specification).

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.**

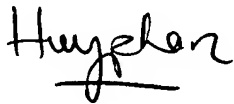
Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huy Q Phan whose telephone number is 571-272-7924. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

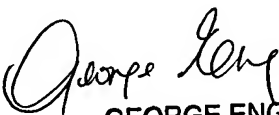
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Examiner: Phan, Huy Q.

AU: 2617

Date: 05/27/2006



GEORGE ENG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER